

AMHERST/LA PAZ CENTRO SISTER CITY COMMITTEE

Minutes

August 25, 2011

PRESENT: Liz Etheridge, Kathy and Walter Mullin, Mary Santiago, Nancy Milch, Anne and Ed Stanek.

TAG SALE

We have gathered some items for the Tag Sale but are hoping that we have more in two weeks! The following is the work plan:

Friday, Sept. 9: 4-7 pm (flexible): Furniture pickup

Liz Etheridge/Steve Fleiner

Chuck and Nancy Milch

Walter Mullin

Lydia Vernon Jones

Carol Wood

Anne and Ed Stanek (if here)

Saturday, Sept 10:

7 am: Table and Furniture Pickup, Layout and Pricing

Liz and Steve

Kathy and Walter

Carlos and Mary

Nancy and Chuck

Anne and Ed (if here)

Terese

Lydia (maybe, or possibly later)

Carol and Paul Baker

Carol Wood

9 am: Selling

Larry (or perhaps later)

About 1 pm: Begin cleanup

Anne is sending out an email to the 2011 Delegation (to which Terese and Larry have already responded).

Anne will put an announcement for the Tag Sale in the calendar in the Hampshire Gazette.

Walter is arranging for pickup of tables at the Wesley Methodist Church in Hadley at 7 am on Saturday.

Carol Baker will be in charge of pricing and arranging at the Tag Sale, with the help of everyone who is there. She will also contact the person who runs the Northampton Book Sale to pick up the books after our sale.

Everyone should bring tarps, Mary will bring the banner, Ed and Anne will bring stakes for the banner, Carol Baker will bring labels and markers for pricing.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Kathy says that we have \$9000 in our account, with another \$200 donation to be added (to make a total of \$9200).

Kathy sent \$2281 to Julio in June to cover the rest of the school expenses, office costs, Julio's salary and tutoring through September. She will send the next installment at the end of September.

We still haven't received any receipts from Julio. We have agreed not to fund anything other than the scholarship program and salary and office costs until Julio starts to send us receipts.

TRANSFORMATIVE LEARNING AT FIRST CHURCH

First Congregational Church in Amherst is hosting a series of Transformative Learning opportunities on five successive Wednesday evenings from 7 – 8:30 pm. Anne has agreed to give a slide/talk on La Paz Centro on Wednesday, October 5th. Everyone on the committee is welcome to attend and participate in the discussion following the presentation. Anne would appreciate all the support she can get!

The other presentations in the series will be:

Wed, September 21st: Toby Bobbitt on Honduras

Wed, September 28th: Russ Vernon-Jones on Guatemala

Wednesday, October 12th: Melanie Blood on Gulu, Uganda

Wednesday, October 19th: Paki on Palestine

REPORT FROM JULIO

Mary reports that Julio lost his job as librarian at the University of Leon for political reasons. He has worked there for many years.

The 26 students are, for the most part, doing very well. Two of them are at the top of their class with 100% standings! One of them is struggling, but he is getting help and they plan to keep working with him.

There is tutoring of the students on study habits. The tutoring will soon be expanded to Math and Spanish.

OTHER BUSINESS

We would really like to get graphing calculators and school textbooks to the La Paz Centro Library so that students have access to them outside school hours. Nancy will try to contact the librarian again. Liz had already tried but received no response.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, September 29th at 7:30 pm in the Lower Meeting Room of the Bangs Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Stanek

Chairperson